

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187047

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, KS, KN

SUBJECT: ROK FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVE: SUPPORT FOR
SIMULTANEOUS ADMISSION AND RECOGNITION OF
NORTH KOREA

REF: (A) SEOUL 5668
(B) STATE 165156
(C) USUN 3903

1. RE PARA 2(A) AND (B) REF (A). QUESTION WHETHER VOTE
IN UNGA FOR MEMBERSHIP, FOLLOWING SECURITY COUNCIL
RECOMMENDATION UNDER ARTICLE 4, WOULD CONSTITUTE DE JURE
RECOGNITION CANNOT BE ANSWERED CATEGORICALLY. MANY
GOVERNMENTS MIGHT WELL TAKE POSITION THAT SUCH A VOTE
DID NOT CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION, SINCE RECOGNITION NOT
INTENDED. U.S. POSITION, HOWEVER, WOULD BE AS STATED REF (B).
WHETHER AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON RESOLUTION "FAVORING" MEMBERSHIP
OF BOTH KOREAS WOULD PRESENT DIFFICULTIES UNDER ARTICLE 4
OF CHARTER, AS SET FORTH REF (B), WOULD DEPEND ON WHAT ONE
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MEANS BY "FAVORING- AND ON WORDING OF RESOLUTION. HOWEVER,

DRAFT LANGUAGE ON MEMBERSHIP IN AGREED FRIENDLY RESOLUTION
REF (C) DOES NOT, IN OUR VIEW, CREATE SUCH DIFFICULTIES.
DRAFT LANGUAGE MERELY EXPRESSES UNGA "HOPE" THAT "MEMBERSHIP"
(NOT NECESSARILY DUAL MEMBERSHIP) WILL BE "CONSIDERED" BY
NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. ADMITTEDLY THIS IS A TECHNICAL
DISTINCTION, BUT AS ALREADY NOTED, THE QUESTION OF WHAT
ACTS IMPLY RECOGNITION IS A TECHNICAL QUESTION.

2. IN THIS REGARD, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL, IN DEALING WITH
GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE RECOGNITION
QUESTION, TO CLARIFY DISTINCTION BETWEEN RECOGNITION OF
SEPARATE NORTH KOREAN STATE AND ITS GOVERNMENT AND THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THAT GOVERNMENT.
EVEN IF IT WERE TRUE THAT VOTE "FAVORING" SIMULTANEOUS
ADMISSION CONSTITUTED DE JURE RECOGNITION OF EXISTENCE
ROK AND DPRK AS STATES, SUCH RECOGNITION WOULD FALL SHORT
OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND IN NO
WAY WOULD IMPLY THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MUST FOLLOW.
USG, FOR EXAMPLE, RECOGNIZES SEVERAL STATES AND
GOVERNMENTS (MOST NOTABLY CUBA) WITH WHICH IT MAINTAINS
NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

3. RE PARA 2(C) REF (A). WHETHER VIEW EXPRESSED PARA 1
REF (B) EXTENDS TO VOTES ON MEMBERSHIP IN SPECIALIZED
ORGANIZATIONS DEPENDS ON LANGUAGE OF CHARTER OR
CONSTITUTION OF ORGANIZATION IN QUESTION REGARDING
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS. VIEW EXPRESSED REF (B) APPEARS
TO EXTEND TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF DPRK MEMBERSHIP IN WHO.
ARTICLE 3 OF WHO CONSTITUTION STATES THAT MEMBERSHIP IN
ORGANIZATION SHALL BE OPEN TO ALL STATES.

4. RE LEE'S COMMENT, WE RECOGNIZE ROK IN TICKLISH
POSITION. BASED ON ABOVE, WE BELIEVE CASE CAN BE MADE
BY ROK WITH COUNTRIES FOR WHOM THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT
VOTE FOR FRIENDLY DRAFT RESOLUTION NEED NOT RAISE
PROBLEMS RE ARTICLE 4 OF UN CHARTER NOR (PER PARA 2
ABOVE) QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. RUSH

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